

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AR

SUBJ: LABOR ACTIVITIES

1. CGT PREOCCUPATION WITH SCHEDULED JUNE 28 MEETING OF NATIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING GROUP TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL HALF-MONTHS BONUS HAS DELAYED ANY SERIOUS ORGANIZATIONAL PREPARATIONS FOR JULY 10-11 CGT CONGRESS. DATE OF CONGRESS WAS RECENTLY ADVANCED TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING MINLABOR AUTHORIZATION FOR CHANGES IN CGT'S STATUTES. ONLY NOTABLE MANEUVERING AT PRESENT TIME INVOLVES EFFORTS TO BLOCK NAMING OF METAL UNION WORKER (UOM) TO REPLACE SEC GEN ROMERO. THERE IS STILL NO CONSENSUS ON WHETHER OR NOT ROMERO WILL BE REPLACED AS APPARENTLY PRON HAS NOT YET INDICATED HIS DESIRES.

2. FOLLOWING RUMORS OF HIS POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT, MINLABOR OTERO HAS TAKEN HARD STAND ON QUESTION OF STRIKES OVER WAGE INCREASES. MINISTRY ISSUED DECREE DECLARING ALL SUCH STRIKES ILLEGAL, AND ON JUNE 24 RELEASED COMMUNIQUE STATING THAT MINISTRY WOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ARBITRATING ANY DISPUTES OVER WAGES. WHEN NOODLE WORKERS UNION IGNORED DECREE, MINLABOR CANCELLED UNIONS LEGAL STATUS AND WARNED THAT SIMILAR ACTION WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAKEN SHOULD OTHER UNIONS RESORT TO STRIKES. HOWEVER RATHER

THAN BACK DOWN THE NOODLE WORKERS DECLARED ADDITIONAL THREE DAYS STRIKE BEGINNING JUNE 26. OTHER UNIONS WERE MORE PRUDENT, HOWEVER AND ALL - INCLUDING TROSTKYITE CORDOBA AUTOMOBILE WORKERS UNION - HAVE CANCELLED STRIKE ACTION.

3. INCONTINUING EFFORT TO FURTHER CONSOLIDATE TRADE UNION POWER, THE CIVIL SERVICE UNION (UPCN) ABSORBED THE STATE PROVINCIAL WORKERS FEDERATION(FATE) ON JUNE 17. UPCN SECGEN VILLAFANE WAS ELECTED SECGEN OF THE ENLARGED UPCN, WHICH IS NOW THE LARGEST ARGENTINE UNION WITH APPROXIMATELY 440,000 MEMBERS. IN FIRST MAJOR UNION ELECTION IN WHICH LEFTIST PERONIST SLATE DEFEATED ORTHODOX INCUMBENTS, FEDERAL CAPITAL TELEPHONE WORKERS UNION SEGEN JULI GUILLAN WAS ELECTED SECGEN OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION (FOETRA). BOTH OUSTED FOETRA LEADERS AND ORTHODOX LABOR LEADERS OF THE NEWSMENS ASSOCIATION WHO LOST A RECENT UNION ELECTION TO INCUMBENT LEFTIST PERONIST HAVE CHARGED ELECTION IRREGULARITIES AND REQUESTED MINLABOR TO ANNUL THE ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC CHARGES OF FRAUD WERE PRESENTED, MINLABOR OTERO STATED PUBLICLY THATHE AGREED WITH THE ORTHODOX LEADERS POSITIONS. HOWEVER TO DATE THE MINLABOR HAS NOT OFFICIALLY DECLARED THE ELECTIONS TO BE NUL AND VOID.

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